

HOUSE RESOLUTION 175

By Miller

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor the members of the Booker T. Washington High School Class of 1972 on the occasion of their fiftieth class reunion.

WHEREAS, high school reunions are an important part of the fabric of our society, providing an excellent opportunity to fondly remember the past, renew old acquaintances, and embrace and look forward to the future; and

WHEREAS, it is the pleasure of this legislative body to honor and congratulate those graduates of Tennessee public schools, both past and present, who have brought great honor and acclaim to the State of Tennessee through their professional successes and magnificent exploits; and

WHEREAS, Booker T. Washington High School's Class of 1972 is one such worthy group of individuals, who will celebrate their fiftieth class reunion this year and gather together September 22-25, 2022; and

WHEREAS, from a two-room, two-teacher structure known as Clay Street School, Booker T. Washington High School evolved as the first public high school for Black students in Memphis; circa 1911, the school was relocated to an abandoned building on Webster Avenue, where it was known as Kortrecht High School; and

WHEREAS, during the 1926-1927 school year, the school moved into a new structure on Lauderdale Street and was named in honor of Black educator and leader Booker T. Washington; and

WHEREAS, Booker T. Washington High School gained national attention when U.S. President Barack Obama delivered the school's 2011 commencement address as a reward for winning the 2011 Race to the Top Commencement Challenge; and

WHEREAS, some notable alumni of Booker T. Washington High School are Willie W. Herenton, former mayor Memphis; State Representative Larry J. Miller; Lorenzen Wright, NBA athlete; Marion Barry, former mayor of Washington, D.C.; Maurice White of Earth Wind & Fire; Rufus Thomas, Memphis musician; Benjamin Hooks, civil rights leader and government official; and David Porter, musician; and

WHEREAS, the estimable members of the Booker T. Washington High School Class of 1972 include Linda Abston (Sullivan), Betty Adams, Moses Adams, Annie Akins, Lireatha Akins, Carolyn Alexander, Dollie Alexander, Michael Alexander, Ronald Alexander, Betty Jo Anderson, Joyce Anderson, Virginia Atterberry (Jones), Albert Avant, Carolyn Avant, Millicent Ayers (Hulbert), Jessie Baker, Barry Baldwin, Rashida "Lorraine" Barksdale (Sawyer), Robert Barr, Calvin Barry, Phyllis Beasley, Thelma Beck, Linda Bell (Sims), Cheryl Bennem (Brown), Claritha Bennie (Anderson), Cheryl Beverly, Samuel Bills, Cathy Birdsong (Williams), Gerald Blakemore, Ava Bland-Smith, Clarence Bledsoe, Marilyn Bledsoe (Switzer), Walter Blue, Laura Booker, Arthur Boothe , Brenda Bowens, Clifford Boyd, Daniel Boyd, Gloria Boyd (Tuggers), Carrie Boyland, John Boyland, Tyrone Brent, Aldo Brown, Alice Brown, Harriet Brown, Jacqueline Brown (Streeter), Janet Brown (Smith), Novella Brown, Paul Brown, and Reginald Brown; and

WHEREAS, the Booker T. Washington High School Class of 1972 also includes Roy Brown, Virginia Brown , Barry Bryant, Elizabeth Buckhanon, Evenatina Buggs (Cox), Corinne Buntyn (Cobbs), Janice Burgess, Larry Burnett, Devane Burns, Jimmie Bush, Anita Butler, Neysa Cahill, Melvin Callahan, Claude Cannon, Beatrice Carter, Nathaniel Carter, Deuel Chandler, Louis Cheatham, Linda Christian, Dorothy Clark, William Clay, Mary Clayborn (Callahan), Hayes Clayton, Wilma Clayton, Dan Cleaborn, Shirley Cole (Catron), Andre Coleman, Anthony Coleman, Beverly Coleman, Sam Collins, Linda Conway (Williams), Harry Cooper, Marlana Cooper (Clayton), Linda Corner (Luckett), Charlie Cothran, Kenneth Cox, Brenda Cummings (Baker), Eddie Cummings, Loydstein Cummings, Evelyn Cunningham,

Minnie Currie, Ouida Curry, Darrow Dandridge, Antionette Davis, Kenneth Davis, William Davis, Richard Dawson, Donnie Dean, Gerald Dewalt, Frederick Dickerson, Danny Dickson, Micheal Dotson, Alvin Douglas, Shirley Duncan (Conley), Debra Dunn (Ellis), Melvin Easley, Kenneth Eason, Mertie Edwards, Willie Effinger, Ida Eggerson (Terrell), Karen Ellis, Vernon Ervin, Terry Erving, Lewis Evans, Donald Fields, Brian Finley, Gail Finley (Peppers), Anita Fleming, Eddie Fletcher, Betty Ford, Frank Ford, James Ford, Rickey Ford, James Foreman, Barbara Franklin, Jamela "Kathy" Franklin, Oscar Gaines, Valerie Gamble, Jacqueline Gardner, Mary Gardner, Lynn Gates, Michael Gholson, Rosaline Gholson, Rosalind Gibbs, Joyce Gleeton, Verna Glover (Johnson), Jimmy Graft, Carlton Graham, Larry Gray, Mildred Gray, Debra Green, Hurrie Griggs, Mattie Gunn, Evelyn Guy (Jones), Leroy Hale, Kenneth Hall, Tria Hall, Lawrence Hamilton, Corrine Hampton, Samuel Hannah, Vivian Hardaway (Prewitt), Melvin Hardin, Anita Harris, Calvin Harris, Catherine Harris, Johnnie Harris (Joy), Lorraine Harris, Suretha Harris, Earl Harrison, Markevella Harvey, Hollis Hastings, Louis Hatcher, Rose Healy, Beverly Heard (Pearson), Lorenzo Hester, Shirley Hibbler, Trudy Hill, Patricia Hobson, Rose Hollowell, Benie Hopson, Nena Howry (Smith), Clyde Hubanks, Janice Hubbard, Jacqueline Hudson (Jackson), John Hudson, Keith Hudson, Elbert Hughes, Cedric Hurt, Annie Hyman (White), Tonnye Irons, Charles Ivory, Ezell Jackson, Glenda Jackson, Robert Jackson, Shirley Jackson (Smith), Annie James, Bennie James, Felippa Jefferson, Barbara Jerry, Deborah Johnson (Staples), and Frederick Johnson; and

WHEREAS, other members of the Booker T. Washington Class of 1972 are Georgia Johnson, Jerome Johnson, Leroy Johnson, Valeri Johnson (Williams), Wilma Johnson (Williams), Anita Jones (Sesley), Anthony Jones, Carolyn Jones (Brown), Denistress Jones (Howze), Diana Jones, Irving Jones, Kenneth Jones, Norma Jones, Rhonda Jones (Williams), Betty Jo Joy, Michael Justice, Adrienne Karney (Lynn), Diana Kelly (Burtis), Harold Keys, Erma Kilpatrick, Dorothy King, Michael Lacy, Brenda Lambert, Herbert Lambert, Charles Lane, David

Laney, Gilda Langston, Larry Leake, Barbara Lee (McClain), Barbara Lester (Terry), Brenda Lewis, Deborah Lewis, Timothy Lewis, Calvin Liggins, Jerry Lipscomb, Herman Lockett, Billy Lockhart, Jerilene Lockhart, Zermonia Long (Redmond), Mary Lott, Patricia Love, Paula Love (Flowers), Matthew Loverson, Jr., Delores Lyles (Cain), Fredell Lynch, Lawrence Lyons, Percy Mackey, Gloria Malone, Josephine Malone, Ruthie Malone, Shirley Malone (Miller), Pearline Manning, Michael Marsh, Square Marshall, William Marshall, Charles Mason, Emma J. Matlock, Vera Matthew (Johnson), Keith Mattison, Lawrence Mays, Floyd McAfee, Telesa McCray (Hood), William McCray, Victor McCullum, Johnnie McDonald, Willie McDowell, Carolyn McFarland (Lotson), Vernita McGhee, Doris McGill (Howard), Raymond McIntire, IV McKay, Georgia McKee (White), Ezell McKinney, Nelda McKinney (Cooper), Alvin McMillon, Barbara McRae, Ruby Medley (Hodge), Veraline Middleton (Gaulmon), Brenda Milam, Barbara Miller, Larry Joe Miller, Melvin Miller, Mamie Milligan, Margaret Milton (Sneed), Alma Mims, Denise Mitchell (Smith), Marvell Mitchell, Olivia Mitchell, Prennia Mitchell, Elizabeth Moore, Neva Moore, Onnie Moore (Gill), Trisa Moore, Verna Moore, Donald Mosby, Yvonne Moten (Hatch), Barbara Muldrow, Cathy Munn (Jordan), Charles Myers, Linda Nabors (Cobbins), Kathy Nalls, Beatrice Nash (Whitley), Percy Nash, Johnny Neals, Gloria Nelson, Earline Newsome (Wright), Laquetta Nicholson, Harold Noel, Linda Nolden, Robert Norman, Vincent Northington, Velma Norton (Jones), Ruthie Oaks, Willie Oliver, Reginald Owens, Eugene Parker, Frederick Parker, Linda Parret, Bertha Patterson, Bessie Patterson, Patricia Payne (Jamison), Patricia Payne (Neely), Ester Peeples, Sylvester Peeples, Jacquelyn Peete, Mae Lois Pegues (Walls), Edward Peoples, Clevell Perkins, Mary Perkins (Dudley), Alma Petty, Carlos Phifer, and Dora Phillips; and

WHEREAS, further members of the Booker T. Washington Class of 1972 are Genieve Phillips, Deborah Porter, Donald Porter, Betty Powell, Carolyn Powell, Paula Powell, Deborah Pratcher (Pigram), Audrey Prewitt (Smith), Gwenette Prewitt (Davis), James Price, Ray Price,

Robert Pruitt, Katheryn Pulley, Shirley Randolph, Paula Read, Charles Redmond, Joann Redmond, Linsey Reed, Shirley Reed, David Richardson, Joyce Riley (Scott), Willye Riley, Joyce Roberson (Johnson), Charles Robertson, Ernie Robinson (Robinson), Issac Robinson, Kenneth Robinson, Crystal Rodgers (Porter), Martha Rodgers, Percy Rodgers, Terry Rodgers, Marvin Rogers, Michael Rogers, Jennifer Roland, Natalie Roman, Lawerence Rossell, Mattie Royston (Pewitt), Gloria Rudd, Michael Rudd, Janet Rudley (Bell), Leon Rushing, Beverly Rutherford, Alzalia Salley (Woodard), Archie Sanders, Bessie Sanders, Charles Sanders, Irvin Sanders, William Saulsberry, Laverne Savage (Webster), Barbara Scruggs (Denson), Madeline Seals (Lewis), Kenneth Shaw, Patricia Shaw, Teresa Sherford (Taylor), Calvin Shoffner, Irene Sims, Linda F. Sims, Shirley Simpson, Albert Smith, Anna Smith, Artega Smith (Clinton), Audrey Smith, Cecelia Smith (Beasley), Dorothy Smith, Howard Smith, Lovell Smith, Mary Smith (Reed), Minnie Smith, Robert Smith, Shelia Smith (Watson), Tarie Smith, Theresa Smith (Lovett), Shelia Spight (Henry), Alonzo Springer, Wendolyn Springfield (Rice), Celestine Staples (Jackson), Bernice Stevenson, Evelyn Stevenson, Delores Stewart (Washington), Deloris Stewart, Richard Stewart, Felitha Still, Stephen Stinnette, Rickey R. Stittiams, Sr., Debra Stokes Durham, Peggy Stoxstell (Jennings), Andrew Straughter, Will Street, Sr., Dr. Alma Strickland (Holt), George Stringer, Marcella Suttle (Johnson), Marva Suttle, Larry Swift, Charles Sykes, Edna Tate, Ruby Tate, Dorothy Taylor, Ezell Taylor, Felton Taylor, Frank Taylor, Geneva Taylor, Jeannette Taylor, Thomas "Fluff" Taylor, Gregory Thomas, Ruth Thomas, Sharon Thomas, Caska Thompson, Dorothy Thompson, Frederick Thorbs, Castadarrell Thorne, Phyllis Tidwell, Calvin Townsend, Ricky Travis, Sammuel Tripplett, Michael Tuggers, Emma Turner (Tate), Anita Tutwiler, Betty Underwood, Donald Venson, Alice Wade (Reed), Laura Wade, Amos Waiter, George Walker, Helen Walker, Stanley Walker, Francine Wallace, Michael Wallace, Johnnie Ward, Sharon Ward, Merry Washington (Anderson), and Michael Watson; and

WHEREAS, other members of the Booker T. Washington Class of 1972 include Joe Wayne, Estella Weaver, Willie Weaver, Larry Webber, Larry Webster, Betty Wells, Elaine West, Frank Westbrook, Roslyn Weston (Holmes), Terry White, Velma White, Lawrence Whitelow, Elnora Whitfield (Lawrence), Vivian Wicks, Gwendolyn Wiggins, Beverly Williams, Billie Cenethia Williams, Carl Williams, Carolyn Williams, Deborah Williams, Dora Williams, Drenda Williams (Hall), Eddie Williams, Eugene Williams, Evelyn Williams, Jacqueline Williams, Juanita Williams, Laurice Williams, Linda Williams, Lynn Williams (Spence), Mitchell Williams, Phyllis Williams (Single), Rev. Luther Williams, Phyllis Wilson, Veritta Wilson (Lewis), Mary Woodall, Johnny Woodard, Anthony Woods, Henry Woods, Manita Woods, Sherry Woods, Christine Wrights, John Young, Linda Young, and Thelma Young (Battle); and

WHEREAS, on the momentous occasion of Booker T. Washington High School's fiftieth class reunion, we find it appropriate to specially recognize this outstanding group of people; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby recognize and honor the members of the Booker T. Washington High School Class of 1972 on the occasion of their fiftieth class reunion and join with them in celebrating this wonderful time together to reminisce of school days past, relate triumphs and adventures occurring throughout the years, and share current news while enjoying the warmth and fellowship of old friends. We extend to these laudable citizens our best wishes for an enjoyable reunion overflowing with memories and good times.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.